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Pravda.

ZASYAD'KO REPORTS ON STATUS OF USSR COAL INDUSTRY

A. Zasyad'ko, Minister of the Coal Industry, reports that by 11 December the miners in the coal industry had exceeded the 1950 plan fixed by the Five-Year Plan and that they will give the country approximately 14 million additional tons of coal by the end of the year.

The average daily level for coal mining fixed by the Five-Year Plan for 1950 was achieved in 1949 by the coal industry. Among enterprises which fulfilled the Five-Year Plan ahead of schedule were the Donbassantratsit and Rostovugol' combines in the Donbass, the Kemerovougol' Combine in the Kuzbass, the Karagandaugol' Combine, the Moscow Basin and Ural combines.

The coal industry has undergone considerable changes during the postwar Five-Year Plan. During this period, the capacity of the coal industry and its technical equipment have greatly increased thanks to the daily assistance of the Bolshevist Party, the Soviet government, Stalin, and the entire Soviet people.

Great successes have been achieved in the construction and restoration of coal mines. Soviet miners have completely restored the coal industry of the Donbass which was destroyed during the German occupation of the area. The Donbass has again become the largest coal-producing basin in the country. Donbass mines are equipped with the most modern engineering devices. The November 1950 coal output in the Donbass was 10 percent higher than the prewar level.

Great new success has been achieved in mechanizing coal mining. Soviet miners have received a number of completely new, highly productive machines which the mines did not previously have. These include coal-mining combines, drift-cutting combines, heavy scraper conveyers, coal-loading machines, and other machines designed by Soviet designers and manufactured in Soviet plants.

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Mass production of the new machines made it possible for the miners to fulfill the Five-Year Plan for mechanization of the coal industry. During 1950, such labor-consuming processes as cutting, shooting, conveying, haulage, and loading of coal onto railroad cars were completely mechanized. New machines have opened up extensive possiblities for mechanizing the most labor-consuming process of all, loading coal at the mine face.

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The technical re-equipment of the coal industry is lightening the work of the miner and increasing his productivity. Introduction of the new technique into coal mines has necessitated changes in the organization of work and the creation of conditions for the most efficient utilization of machines.

Reorganization of work was begun in the Donbass. It consisted in converting a considerable number of mine faces to the cycle-work schedule. At present, hundreds of Donbass mines are operating on this schedule and completing a cycle each 24 hours. During the first months of the new work schedule, the coal output rose 22 percent and labor productivity increased 19 percent. It is the task of Soviet miners to spread the Donbass experience as far as possible, to convert the entire coal industry to the cycle work schedule.

Living conditions of the miners have also steadily improved. During the postwar Five-Year Plan, miners received more than 3 million square meters of living quarters, hundreds of restored and newly constructed palaces of culture, clubs, nurseries, and other cultural and public buildings.

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